Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, Congenital diaphragmatic hernia (CDH) is an opening in the diaphragm that allows the abdominal organs to push into the chest cavity and is often a life-threatening birth defect because it limits the growth of the lungs; and,

Whereas, One in every 2,500 pregnancies are diagnosed with a congenital diaphragmatic hernia. Every year in the United States, 1,600 babies are born with CDH. Since 2000, it is estimated that over 500,000 babies have been born with CDH, and only 50 percent of those babies survived; and,

Whereas, Congenital diaphragmatic hernia is as common as spina bifida and cystic fibrosis, but very few people know about it or are aware of it; and,

Whereas, There are people living in South Dakota who have been diagnosed with and have survived their CDH, and some families have endured the grief associated with the loss of loved ones with CDH; and,

Whereas, Those with CDH often endure multiple surgeries and possible medical complication beyond their diagnosis that include heart defects, pulmonary complications, gastric and intestinal problems, developmental delays, and may require respiratory and medicinal support for years; and,

Whereas, Raising awareness of this congenital defect will help bring about acceptance and support for those suffering with it and will help advocate for urgently needed medical research and advances:

Now, Therefore, I, Dennis Daugaard, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim April 19, 2013, as

CONGENITAL DIAPHRAGMATIC HERNIA AWARENESS DAY

in South Dakota.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this First Day of April in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Thirteen.

Dennis Daugaard

Dennis Daugaard, Governor

Attest:

Jason Gant

Jason M. Gant, Secretary of State